

9/21/79

SKA  
Cuba

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17TROOPS \*\*\*\*\* URGENT (REPEATING 1575)Z  
WASHINGTON, AUG 31, REUTER - THE UNITED STATES HAS TOLD THE  
SOVIET UNION OF ITS SERIOUS CONCERN OVER THE PRESENCE IN CUBA  
OF A SOVIET COMBAT UNIT OF BETWEEN 2,000 AND 3,000 TROOPS,  
INCLUDING ARMOR AND ARTILLERY, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.  
"THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM THE  
PRESENCE OF A SOVIET GROUND FORCES UNIT ON THE ISLAND," SAID  
STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN HODDING CARTER. ALTHOUGH ELEMENTS OF  
THE UNIT APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN THERE AT LEAST SINCE 1976, HE  
ADDED.

MORE 1333

(END REPEAT)Z

REUTER 1857